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THE "DAILY PRESS" OFFICE!  
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# Hongkong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1862.

No. 13,071

第十七卷一千三萬零五十二號

HONGKONG THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1900.

年一月二十五日

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH.

## NOTICE

Communications respecting advertisements, BUSINESS TERMS, PRINTING, BOUNDING, &c, should be addressed to the **Editor**, and all special business matters to the **Manager**.

Advertisers and Subscribers which are not bound for a fixed period will be continued until otherwise notified.

The first four copies of **Dates** **Press** should be sent before 11 a.m. on day of publication. After that time the supply is limited. Only supplied for **Telegraphic Address** **Press**, A.B.C. Code.

25.00 per copy. **Telephone** No. 12.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SHANGHAI.

THE Company's Steamship

"KWANGSE,"

Captain Harris, will be despatched above

SATURDAY, the 27th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents

Hongkong, 25th January, 1900. 345

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

HONGKONG ODD VOLUMES SOCIETY.

## LECTURE.

THE HONORABLE W. M. GOODMAN has kindly consented to read a paper on "CRIMINAL LAW AND ITS HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT" in the Chamber of Commerce Room at the City Hall, on MONDAY, the 29th January, 1900, at 5.15 p.m.

The Meeting is open to Ladies and Members of the Society and to the Public.

H. E. POLLACK,

Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1900. 340

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Offices of the Company, Pedder Street, at NOON, on WEDNESDAY, the 7th of February, to receive a statement of the Company's Accounts to the 31st December, 1899, and the Report of the General Managers.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 26th instant to the 7th February, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1900. 349

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in this Corporation, will be held at the Office of the Company, 10, Queen's Road, Central, on SATURDAY, the 17th day of February next, at NOON, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1899.

By Order of the Court of Directors.

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1900. 343

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the REGISTERS of SHARES of the Corporation will be CLOSED from SATURDAY, the 3rd to the Seventeenth day of February next (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Court of Directors.

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1900. 344

## NOTICE

THE Undersigned, KWOK SHING WOO and CHUEN WOO, having carried on Business solely and alone in Hongkong for over 30 years, and as Owners of a number of Ships and European Naval Contracts under the Style or name of CHUEN WOO and KWOK SHING WOO other than by himself the Undersigned.

Dated this 24th day of January, 1900.

KWOK SHING WOO

of the CHUEN WOO

20 and 30, Praya Central, Hongkong.

Witness to Signature.

MATTHEW J. D. STEPHENS,

Solicitor, Hongkong.

348

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction

(for account of the concerned).

TO-DAY (THURSDAY),

the 25th January, 1900, at NOON, at their

Sales Rooms, 1st House Street,

A set of REVOLVERS, SPORTING

GUNS, WINCHESTER and MARTINI

HENRY RIFLES, 11-BORE FOWLING

PIECE, by William Powell & Son, Bir-

mingham, &c., &c.

Also

Two TELESCOPES.

TERMS.—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1900. 347

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions

to sell by Public Auction

(for account of the concerned),

on SATURDAY,

the 27th January, at 2.30 P.M. at their

Sales Rooms, Ice House Street,

A set of ASIATIC and JAPANESE CURIOS, PICTURES, JA-

PANESE VASES, &c., &c.

Also

A very fine Selection of CANTON BLACK-

WOODWARE.

TERMS.—As usual.

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Hongkong, 25th January, 1900. 345

DILIGENTIA LODGE OF INSTRU-

CTION.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above

Logo will be held at the FREEMASONS' HALL, TO-DAY (THURSDAY), the 25th

January, at 5 for 5.30 P.M. precisely.

Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1900. 341

## POSTPONEMENT.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,

LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND

FOOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAITAN,"

Captain RICHARD, will be dispatched for the above ports on SATURDAY, the 27th inst., at 10 A.M.

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Hongkong, 25th January, 1900. 342

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## INTIMATIONS

**BROWN, JONES & CO.**  
MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS.  
AMERICAN MARBLE.  
ITALIAN MARBLE.  
HONGKONG GRANITE.  
Designs and Prices on application.  
One, 17a Queen's Rd. Central, 1st Floor.



**A. S. WATSON & CO.,  
LIMITED.**

## WINE MERCHANTS.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

## CLARETS.

	Per Case, Per Carton, 1 Doz. Qu. 5 lbs. Price.
St. ESTEPHE, Red Capsule	... 6.99 7.56
St. JULIEN, Red Capsule	... 9.00 9.60
LA ROSE, Red Capsule	... 12.90 13.92
CHATEAU HAUT BRION LAR.	... 18.50 19.50
CHATEAU MOUTON D'ARMAL	... 21.00 22.00
CHATEAU PONTE CANT.	... 25.00
CHATEAU LA TOUR CARNET	... 30.00
CHATEAU RAUZAN	... 42.00
CHATEAU LAFITE	... 48.00

These CLARETS are bought direct from the leading French growers. The lowest priced are of exceptional value and guaranteed to be the genuine product of the juice of the grape, and are not artificially made as is generally the case with cheap Wines.

**CHATEAU LA TOUR CARNET,**  
**CHATEAU RAUZAN, and CHATEAU LAFITE** are commended to the notice of Connoisseurs as high-class after-dinner Wines of a rich and rare character.

Sample bottles and smaller quantities will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates.

We guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine only when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorised Agents at the Coast Ports.

**A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.**

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## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, January 25th, 1900.

WHAT used to be said of the sea, that it bound the lands together, is now more especially true of railways. Such indeed has been the effect of railways within an ordinary lifetime that they may be said to have completely metamorphosed the political, social and commercial life of the world.

The position of the country may now be said to be estimated above all things else by the length and condition of its railways. First

commenced in short links connecting neighbouring centres of population, as Stockton and Darlington, the pioneer of railway enterprises, the detached fragments got gradually linked up, till at last they came to connect kingdoms and finally continents.

America led in the latter contest. The discovery of gold in California may be said to have been the initiating cause which led to the construction of a line uniting the Atlantic and Pacific across the newer continent, and as a consequence we now again find the nations bent on connecting the two great oceans, but this time through the oldest continent of all, Russia, who indeed but solved the problem in her gigantic Siberian Railway, but the example has produced emulation, and we now find Germany and England her competitors in the field.

In the early forties, when railways were still in their early childhood, the idea presented itself to an English engineer of re-opening with a line of railway the ancient route of traffic from Antioch to the Persian Gulf through the then wealthy valley of the Euphrates. It was a time when England was consolidating her great Indian Empire, and Lord Palmerston, one of her great prime ministers, was in power and cordially supported the scheme. It was before his time and never assumed a more practical form than surveys. Times changed, and, as we showed the other day, Germany entered into England's plan and finally obtained the concession of the line. The centre of British influence had in fact shifted from Constantinople to Cairo, and in the administration of Egypt, England had given another pledge to the world. It was, perhaps, inevitable that the fact should have excited jealousies at Constantinople, and it is quite possible that the Sultan might have fancied a line, in so vital a portion of his dominions, in English hands as a means of his own reduction to servitude. But Englishmen had long ago, before English enterprises had possessed itself of Egypt, also been planning an alternative route to the Persian Gulf through North Africa; but the horrors of laying down a line through the then unknown desert led the idea being rejected as chimera. English engineers had, however, had some experience of laying lines through the deserts of Scinde, and political reasons led them to run similar lines through the trackless sands of upper Egypt. The result was favourable, the lines were easily and cheaply laid, and proved unexpectedly profitable. It was natural that Cairo should present itself as an ideal terminus. With lines extending within fifteen degrees of the equator at each side, the greater part of the intermediate country under British influence, a railway already approaching completion midway in Uganda, and three great navigable lakes ready to form links in the chain of communication till a railway without a

break was feasible, a Cairo to the Cape railway came into the world of practical politics, and may now be said to be a certainty of the near future. But if a Cairo to Cape Railway, extending through sixty-five degrees of latitude from 30° north to 30° south, were feasible, there were other and far less formidable ventures waiting to be taken up nearer home. One of these, it is possible more for rendering than Mr. Roosevelt's plan to the Cape, was presented to the British public by Mr. C. A. Moreing in the *Minuteman* magazine for September last, and consisted in a proposed line from the Suez Canal to Akaba, at the head of the Gulf of the same name, and from there to Kowayt in Turkish territory near the head of the Persian Gulf, a port of some importance, and commanding the entrance of the united waters of the Tigris and Euphrates. From Ismailia to Akaba is something under 200 miles, and from Akaba to Kowayt some 350 to 400. The route lies through Neftod, itself indeed a sandy desert, but with settled districts north and south, and, somewhat difficult negotiations would have to be entered into with the tribes on the way. England is, however, paramount in Egypt, and has a preponderating influence in the Gulf of Persia, and in consequence is in a position to treat on favourable terms. The engineering obstacles are not greater than have been overcome in upper Egypt. Kowayt is some 70 miles from Basra, where the German concession of the Euphrates is to end, so that a junction can be easily effected. At all periods of history the lower part of the Mesopotamian Valley has been of importance, as there has concentrated the trade of Egypt and the Levant with Persia and India. It is now of more importance than ever, as there the stream of traffic will in all probability be joined by that of Russia. It will readily be seen that the proposed line, so far from being an opponent, will actually tend to become a feeder of the German and Russian systems. All this is pointed out by Mr. Gerald F. Tabor in a letter to the *Times*, which is well worth careful perusal. But there more. Once arrived at Basra, a line along the north coast of the Persian Gulf connecting through Beluchistan with Karschi must follow almost as a matter of course, and this would go through territory acknowledged as within the sphere of England's influence. It is something to find that so able an engineer as Mr. ARTHUR BARRY has, favourably, endorsed the scheme, which it is now to be hoped will be taken up geographically in England.

Mr. Moreing's scheme, however, does not end with its connection with the Indian lines, but takes up their proposed junction with Burmali and China. This, however, taken in conjunction with proposed Russian extensions in Asia, is of too much interest and importance to be passed on at the end of an article, and we propose to revert to it in a subsequent issue.

The men of the Hongkong Boat Club fixed for to-day is postponed owing to an injury to one of the carmen.

Mr. Oshima, of the Japanese Government Iron Boundary, has left Nagasaki for China to arrange for the transportation to Japan of iron from South China.

The ordinary half-ready meeting of the Banking Corporation will be held in the City Hall on 17th February. The register of shares will be closed from February 3rd to 17th

The Nagasaki Police are requesting for men belonging to H. M. S. *Victorius*, who were left behind when the vessel sailed. Nothing has ever been heard of them, and it is supposed that they joined an American transport for San Francisco.

The Honble. W. M. Goodman, acting Chief Justice, will read a paper on "Criminal Law" at the half-ready meeting on 17th February.

The Royal Engineers will play H. Company, R. W. F. in the second round for the Hongkong Football Challenge Shield.

Saturday, 28th January, Hongkong Football Club will play H. Company, R. in the second round for the Hongkong Football Challenge Shield. Kick-off on the Club ground.

Wednesday, 2nd February, the Hongkong Football Club (A) will play the Sargents of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Kick-off at half past four.

The Orkney Envoys have introduced a Bill in the F. S. Sanjibai to appropriate for the expense of carrying a pension of \$3,000 dollars yearly to一百 for the services of Dr. H. M. Goodman, Hon. Wei Yen, Dr. H. C. Crawford, Choy Leep Choo, D. B. H. C. Crawford, Wu Choun, Ho Tung, T. H. Hunter, H. Hastings, A. Mackie, J. Witchell.

The Rev. R. F. Cobbold has attended weekly to give religious instruction to the oldest boys; and has examined the whole school in their scrupulousness.

In response to a letter of the Trustees of the Belline Priory and Royal Fund, the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, Choy Leep Choo, D. B. H. C. Crawford, Wu Choun, Ho Tung, T. H. Hunter, H. Hastings, A. Mackie, J. Witchell.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The following will play for the United Services against the Hongkong Club at Rugby on Saturday, 1st February, 10 a.m.

Mr. Moreing's scheme, however, does not end with its connection with the Indian lines, but takes up their proposed junction with Burmali and China. This, however, taken in conjunction with proposed Russian extensions in Asia, is of too much interest and importance to be passed on at the end of an article, and we propose to revert to it in a subsequent issue.

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## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL  
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

PORT	DEPARTURE	TO SAIL ON	REMARKS
LONDON	[BOMBAY]	About 27th January	Freight or Passage.
SHANGHAI & JAPAN	CYLON	About 27th January	Freight or Passage.
LONDON, &c.	[VALETTA]	1st Feb.	See Special Advertisement.
YOKOHAMA, VIA NA.	ROSETA	About 3rd Feb.	Freight or Passage. (Pass.
GASAKI AND KOBÉ	C. C. Talbot, a.m.c.	Pass.	YOKOHAMA, via NA. going through the Island Sea.
SHANGHAI	CITROS	About 3rd Feb.	Freight or Passage.
MARSEILLES	AWB	31st March	Freight or Passage.
LONDON DIRECT	[MARSILIA]	14th April	(Without Transhipment).

For further particulars, apply to

H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 3rd January, 1900.

## NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

## FREIGHT SERVICE. (FREIGHT SERVICE).

(Taking Cargo at through rates to ANTWERP, AMSTERDAM, ROTTERDAM, LIEGE, OPORTO, LONDON, LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW, TRIESTE, GENOA, PORTS IN THE LEVANTE, BLACK SEA AND BALTIC PORTS, NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS).

## PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

## SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES
WITTENBERG	HAMBURG	29th Jan.
Capt. Mihara	(London with transhipment in Hamburg)	Freight
HOLSTATA	HAMBURG	About 8th Feb.
Capt. Bille	(London with transhipment in Hamburg)	Freight
BABELSBERG	HAMBURG	About 15th Feb.
Capt. P. N.	(London with transhipment in Hamburg)	Freight and Passage
WEICHPLAGIA	HAMBURG	About 27th Feb.
Capt. Hillebrandt	(London with transhipment in Hamburg)	Freight
ASTURIA	NEW YORK	About 15th Mar.

\* This steamer has superior accommodation for Passengers and carries a Doctor and a Steward.

For further particulars as to Freight, Passage, etc., apply to

CARLOWITZ &amp; CO., AGENTS.

Hongkong, 18th January.

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## NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA

## THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

## PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES
KAMAKURA MARU	MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP	FRIDAY, 26th January, (London with transhipment in Hamburg) at DAYLIGHT.
H. Petersen	WEPP, VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG	25th instant, at Noon.
YAWATA MARU	MARSEILLES, THURSDAY ISLAND, SYDNEY, BRISBANE	FRIDAY, 26th January, at 4 P.M.
A. E. Mose	SYDNEY, MELBOURNE	
HAKUJI MARU	AMOK, SHANGHAI AND KOBÉ	THURSDAY, 1st February, at DAYLIGHT.
M. Nishimura	AMOK, SHANGHAI AND KOBÉ	
KAGOSHIMA MARU	BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO	FRIDAY, 2nd February, at Noon.
R. Nishimura	MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP	WEPP, VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG

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Hongkong, 20th January, 1900.

12

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OLDENBURG	WEDNESDAY	21st February
BAERN	WEDNESDAY	21st March
STUTTGART	WEDNESDAY	4th April
KONIG ALBERT	WEDNESDAY	18th April
WEIMAR	WEDNESDAY	21st May
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SACHSEN	WEDNESDAY	21st Sept.
OLDENBURG	WEDNESDAY	28th Sept.
BAERN	WEDNESDAY	28th Oct.
STUTTGART	WEDNESDAY	28th Nov.
KONIG ALBERT	WEDNESDAY	9th Dec.
WEIMAR	WEDNESDAY	23rd Dec.
PREUSSER	WEDNESDAY	

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Hongkong, 18th January, 1900. 274

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Hongkong, 17th November, 1899. 69

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Hongkong, 18th August, 1899. 1248

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## SUPREME COURT.

24th January.

## IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOR W. MEECH GOODMAN  
(ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE) AND  
A SPECIAL JURY.ALLEGED LIBEL BY A CHINESE  
NEWSPAPER.

In this case U. Norvegna, of Wyndham Street, merchant, claimed from Wong Shu Tong, of 14, Praya Central, as proprietor of the *Tsun Wan Yat Po*, and Ng Sui Jung, of 39, Gough Street, as printer and publisher of the said newspaper, damages for libel.

The following composed the jury.—Messrs J. Orange (foreman), F. D. Goddard, D. W. Cradock, V. A. Caesar-Hawkins, John Thurnburn, A. Turner, and E. Osborne. It was agreed that the jurors should be remunerated at the rate of \$10 a day each: Mr. Slade (instructions by Messrs. Mornsey and Bruton) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Robinson and Mr. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. C. Evans), appeared for the defendants, Mr. Robinson for the first defendant and Mr. Francis for the second.

Mr. Slade read the pleadings in the case. Paragraph 3 of the petition said, "The plaintiff on or about the 24th March, 1897, was appointed merchant consul for Italy without salary for Hongkong, and in the beginning of July 1898, was further appointed merchant consul for Italy without salary for the two provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi, in the empire of China." Paragraph 4 said, "In the beginning of August, 1898, the plaintiff at his own request was relieved of his office of consul for the said provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi, and was succeeded by Lieutenant Ginda, and on or about the 6th June, 1899, was relieved of his office of consul for Hongkong and was succeeded by Mr. E. Volpicelli, a member of the regular Italian interpreter service." Paragraph 5 said,

"During the time in which the plaintiff was acting as Italian consul as aforesaid the plaintiff carried on and still carries on his business as a merchant dealing in coals and general merchandise, and trading largely with Chinese customers in Canton and in Wuchow and other ports on the West River." Paragraph 6 said, "On the 9th day of June, 1899, the defendants falsely and maliciously printed and published or caused to be printed and published or caused to be printed and published of the plaintiff, in respect to the plaintiff in his said business as a merchant, in the said newspaper called the *Tsun Wan Yat Po*, which has a wide circulation in Hongkong and Canton and adjacent ports and in the ports and districts adjacent to the West River, the following words in the Chinese language." Then followed the words complained of. Paragraph 7 said, "The following is a translation of the said words:

"We learn that a certain merchant who has once acted as Italian Consul at Canton has in consequence of certain affairs been reprimanded and dismissed. Recently the said merchant has conspired with the Chinese to work certain coal mine, and relying on the protection of a foreign flag resisted and refused to pay *lok*. This the high authorities have found out from enquiries made, and decided to thoroughly investigate the matter. It is not known what may happen afterwards."

The said words were so understood by those to whom they were published, and mean that the plaintiff in his business as an Italian consul has been guilty of dishonourable and dishonest practices, and has on account of such practices been dismissed in disgrace from his office of consul; that the plaintiff and the Chinese with whom he had business relations had been guilty of a conspiracy to defraud, and in fact defrauding the revenue of the Imperial Chinese Government; that the high authorities of the provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi—meaning thereby the Viceroy of Canton and his ministers—found this out, and in consequence caused the plaintiff to be dismissed from his office of consul; that enquiries were still being prosecuted into the action of the plaintiff and his Chinese associates; and that it was not yet known what punishment would be inflicted on the Chinese who should be found to have had business relations with the plaintiff, and the whole paragraph purports to be and was understood by the readers thereof to be issued or inspired by the said high authorities as a notice and a warning to persons intending to deal with the plaintiff that the plaintiff and the persons dealing with him had incurred their displeasure; and that the plaintiff had been in consequence degraded from his official rank at their instance; that persons who had dealt with the plaintiff had rendered themselves liable to punishment; that the plaintiff in consequence of his degradation was now a person of no account, and could no longer obtain any protection from the Italian flag; and that any person having business relations with the plaintiff would be liable to be suspected of illegal proceedings, and to incur the displeasure of the said high authorities."

Paragraph 8 said, "On the date of the publication of the aforesaid defamatory words by the defendants one *An Lap Sun* had given to the plaintiff orders for 5,000 rifles, but in consequence of the said publication the said *An Lap Sun* refused to complete the said order, whereupon the plaintiff has suffered damage to the amount of \$5,000." Paragraph 9 said, "At the date of the publication of the aforesaid defamatory words by the defendants, the *Kwong Tung Sun Tai* firm had given to the plaintiff orders for 2,000 barrels of cement, 3,000 revolvers, and 400 casks of nails, but in consequence of the said publication the said firm has refused to complete the said order, whereby the plaintiff has suffered damage to the amount of \$1,970." Paragraph 10 said, "Prior to the publication of the aforesaid defamatory words by the defendants, the plaintiff had considerable business transactions with the said *Kwong Tung Sun Tai* firm, from which he had derived large profits, and the said firm would have continued to deal with the plaintiff and the plaintiff to derive large profits, but owing to the said publication the said firm refused to have any further transaction with the plaintiff, and the plaintiff has lost the profits which he would otherwise have made thereby, and Chinese merchants and traders in Canton and the West River ports are afraid to deal with the plaintiff, and the plaintiff has been seriously injured in his credit and reputation, and in his said business as a merchant and claims \$12,000 damages. The plaintiff, therefore, prays (1) that the defendant may be ordered to pay to the plaintiff \$18,970; (2) that the plaintiff may have such further and other relief as to this honourable court may seem fit."

In their answer the defendants said they had no personal knowledge of and did not admit the facts alleged in paragraphs 3, 4, and 5 of the petition. Paragraph 4 of the answer said, "The defendant Ng Sui Yung admits having printed and published in the *Tsun Wan Yat Po* newspaper the Chinese words set out in paragraph 6 of the petition; but he has no knowledge and does not admit that they refer to the plaintiff, and further says that if such words do refer to the plaintiff that they are not libellous in their natural signification, and denies that they bear the defamatory meaning alleged in paragraph 7 of the petition." He does not admit the correctness of the translation into English contained in paragraph 7 of the petition. Paragraph 5 of the answer said, "The defendant Wong Shu Tong denies having printed or published the Chinese words set out in paragraph 6 of the petition, and says as aforesaid for further answer relies on the allegations contained in paragraph 7 hereof."

Paragraph 6 said, "The defendant denies the fact alleged in paragraphs 8, 9, and 10 of the petition." Continuing, Mr. Slade mentioned the various points which it would be for the jury to consider, viz., as to whether the extract from the Chinese newspaper in question had been correctly translated or not, the translation having been made by the court translator; whether or not the words were libellous; and next the amount of the damages.

The plaintiff gave evidence bearing out the allegations in the petition, and was cross-examined at considerable length.

The hearing had not concluded when the court rose.

If the Victoria Cross were granted for each case of conspicuous gallantry at Magersfontein, says a correspondent with Methuen, "it would be necessary to distribute it by hundreds, for never in the history of war have so many acts of individual heroism been achieved."

A corporal of the Seaforth Highlanders was taken prisoner by the Boers, who took away his rifle and left him in the trenches in charge of one of their comrades. When the others retired, the comrade, who had been left behind him, escaped to the British lines.

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## SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

SCIENCE IN ART: EARLY CEMENT, LIME AND MALARIA, A CHEMIST'S MAGIC, A LOCKJAW CURE, A UNIVERSAL POISON ANTIDOTE, TEST OF EYE KNIFE, SILKWORM GUT, A HYDROFLUORIC BATTERY, ELECTRICITY AND ANIMAL GROWTH, HEAT-SAVING ENGINES.

A special study of colors and their chemistry has been made by J. G. Vibert, the great French painter. He finds that the ancient painters, of the time of Apelles, had only four colors—chalk white, yellow ochre, red ochre, and black. In Pliny's time there had been added different chalk whites, lead white and its combinations, masticot, minium, opimient (red and yellow sulphide of arsenic), red and purple lakes (made from shells) natural and burnt ochers, cinabar, indigo, powdered Eman blue, verdigris, brown earth, ivory black and other blacks, and sepia. Later came the red lakes, made from cochineal and madder, and the vegetable yellow lakes, also the true ultramarine blue from the costly sappan lacca. A chest in the museum of Antwerp contains a collection of the colors used by Rubens, and of these white lead, cinnamon, lapis (ultramarine), the madder lakes, the earths and the ochers have proved very durable, while the vegetable yellows, reds and greens have faded and vanished. Of the many colors brought out since Rubens' time, those of auline—so often brilliant but deceptive mixtures—are held to have been an unfortunate addition for art. It is concluded that the finest colors are those of pure pigment, with a little linseed or poppy oil as a medium, and that the mineral colors—unlike those from vegetable substances—are generally permanent, but hard to get in purity.

A number of samples of cement from the ancient water conduits of Ephesus and Smyrna have been analyzed, proving to be of similar composition, although ranging in date from several hundred years before Christ to three centuries after. The samples were found to be chiefly lime, with a small proportion of fatty acids. Experiments indicate that the cement was a mixture of two parts of slag or lime with one part of olive oil as this was hard and durable. Treatment of soil with lime has been suggested to the Paris Academy of Sciences as a possible remedy for malaria, as it has been noticed that countries having a surface rich in lime are free from this malady.

A clever X-ray trick is described by Dr. Gustave Michaud in the *Scientific American*. To heighten the effect a lamp may be placed behind the sitter, in front of whom is then held the apparatus, which looks like the lens tube of a camera with a sheet of white paper exposed in full view as the plate, and the rubber bulb, apparently operating a pneumatic shutter, is pressed. The result is startling—a picture of the subject's internal organs flashing instantaneously into view in strong colors. The picture is previously painted on the paper with invisible inks—a diluted solution of sulphocyanide of potassium being used for the lungs, a more concentrated solution of the same salt for the heart and the principal arteries, a solution of potassium for the larger veins, and a weaker solution of the same salt for the stomach and a few intestinal coils. For the rest of the body is used a concentrated solution of tannin. The tube really contains only a small atomizer, and pressure on the bulb forces from this upon the paper an invisible spray of ferric chloride solution, producing well-known chemical reactions.

In a case reported by Dr. Woods, the only patient he had seen to recover from tetanus was treated by hypodermic injections of ten per cent. solution of carbolic acid every half-hour, except when quiet at night, until able to swallow. A dram of the solution in glycerine was then administered every three hours until the spasms ceased, and after that less frequent and smaller doses until all rigidity had disappeared. Like treatment proved effective in a case of tetanus in a horse.

Milk containing five per cent. of borax is proposed by Mr. Ed. Grouzel as a general antidote to poisons. Boric acid is precipitated as an insoluble borate by most mineral bases. The case in of milk coagulates with toxic acids, and also forms insoluble precipitates with mineral bases, while the fatty character of milk prevents irritant substance from taking too much effect.

The number of winks in a given time is found by Kotz, a Russian physician, to furnish a fairly cause by various illuminants. This method gives the following unexpected results from readings of ten minutes: With a candle, 6, 8 winks per minute; city gas, 2, 8; sunlight, 2, 2; electric light, 1, 8.

A peculiar industry of the island of Procida is the manufacture of fine silk threads from the stomachs of silkworms. The worm, just before the time of its metamorphosis, is cut open, and the membrane of the stomach is carefully removed and picked by a secret process. Holding one end in the teeth and drawing the other with the hands, the work-people then work the tissue into threads of considerable length. The threads are prized for strength and flexibility, and find a market in Northern Italy at about \$15.00 a pound. They are used for fishing tackle, brushes, etc. Production is expensive, as the worms must be taken at the time of their greatest value for silk-making, and the various operations demand much labour by skilled hands.

A new primary battery, patented by E. L. Anderson, has as the negative electrode a carbon cylinder, surrounding which is a lead cylinder that serves as the positive electrode. The electrolyte consists of one part of hydrofluoric acid mixed with three parts of water, with the addition of about two parts of boric acid. A source of oxygen is also added, such as chromic acid, potassium permanganate or atmospheric air.

Animals treated by electricity by a German experimenter have shown an increase of growth of 18 to 24 per cent. under certain conditions.

The animals were placed in a cage through which an alternating current was passed six hours a day. A stronger current produced depression and retarded growth.

"Heat accumulators" are claimed to save 15 to 20 per cent. in the full consumption of locomotives on a Russian railway, while the weight of trains has been increased by a similar percentage. A water-filled steel reservoir of about 320 gallons is placed over the boiler, and is heated by the steam not used to drive the engine. All feed-water passes through it.

A new species of tobacco, *Nicotiana Stocktoni*, has been discovered by Mr. A. L. Stockton on Socorro Island of the Pacific coast. The number of species of tobacco now known to botanists is about one hundred.

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